



PATRICK TESTIN
STATE SENATOR

PRESS RELEASE

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Bridging the Broadband Gap in Portage County

Residents in the Towns of Sharon, Grant, and Plover See Increased Broadband Access

Portage County, WI – Recently, the Public Service Commission (PSC) announced the approval of broadband grants amounting to nearly half a million dollars that will benefit the Portage County towns of Sharon, Grant, and Plover. Senator Patrick Testin was among those who successfully petitioned the PSC to award the grants.

“The internet is the infrastructure of the 21st century,” said Senator Testin. “Students use the internet for homework, businesses use it to market their products, and we all use it to stay connected to our friends and our families. Broadband bridges the gap between rural communities and cities. I’m excited for Portage County, and I look forward to continuing to move forward in the coming years.”

These grant awards, which will go to Amherst Telephone Co. and Solarus, follow a significant increase in funding for broadband included in this year’s budget – which was based on legislation co-authored by Senator Testin along with Senator Howard Marklein and Representative Romaine Quinn.

“Senator Testin has been a strong advocate for rural broadband,” said Rick Letto, Amherst Telephone Co.’s General Manager. “We’re thrilled to work with him and others in our state and local government to connect our communities.”

Expansion work is expected to be underway later this spring.

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